

THE BELDING BANNER-NEWS

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Long May It Wave



HUBERT M. ENGEMANN
CORP. FRANCIS J. WAGIN
CORP. CLARENCE C. BAILEY

"Let us then stand by the constitution as it
is, and by our country as it is, one, united,
and entire; let it be a truth engraved on our
hearts; let it be borne on the flag under which
we rally in every exigency, that we have one
country, one constitution, one destiny."—Daniel
Webster.

STUDENTS WARNED NOT TO BURN MIDNIGHT OIL

The supply of kerosene will run
short next winter and the government
is urging every user to do his part
toward making every gallon to do full
war duty by giving forth its full
measure of light and heat. Saving
can be accomplished, it is said, only
if care is given lamps, lanterns, heat-
ers and stoves.

The director of oil conservation of
the United States fuel administration
issues these rules for fuel-oil saving:
Keep all lamps and lanterns clean.
Let the light out; don't confine it be-
hind smoked and dirty chimneys.

See that burners and wicks of all
oil burning devices are clean. Clean
burners require less oil and give bet-
ter lights.

Don't allow a lamp, lantern, heater
or stove to burn a minute longer than
is necessary. Don't light one you can
do without.

Don't use coal oil for cleaning pur-
poses. Hot water will do the work.

SHORT TALKS OF DOINGS IN THE WAR COUNTRY

(Continued From Page One.)

might in this hell of bursting shell
and shrapnel and got them into their
little shelters, good only to protect
from flying splinters.

As Sergt. Ivan Smith was getting
his men inside, a shell hit the corner
of the shelter and exploded not four
feet from his tin hat. The force of
the explosion drove him through the
door and against the opposite side of
the shelter. He was dazed for a
minute and was slightly wounded in
the jaw by a glancing piece of shell.
The same shell wounded Pte. Wm.
Burger in the back. Three other
shells hit within a radius of five feet
of that spot, so you can see the den-
sity of the barrage. The sergeant
recovered from his daze and gripped
himself to action. He explained to
his men that the barrage would soon
pass them by going back creeping
little by little to the support line,
while the Boche following closely
would come through the wire and be
on them next. So he and they ar-
ranged for the combat. Each man got
set with his own particular weapon—
the automatic, the rifle, the hand
bomb, the bayonet—each man in
his own class and as soon as the bar-
rage passed beyond them towards
our second line they came from their
shelter and fought it out. Just out-
side the wire following their barrage
beyond the splintering area was the
Boche raiding party out in the hopes
of catching American prisoners, out
in the hopes our men had been so
shaken they would fall easy prey.

"Thank God for the hours of hard
work, thank God for the hours of
steady and patient instructions by
Flint officers in this particular prob-
lem. They grasped the situation and
made the only defense possible. The
sergeant touched off his flare calling
for our own artillery barrage so that
our artillery could locate the place of
need along the long front and prop-
erly place their fire so as to shut off
reinforcements. He placed his men
along their scanty shelter and opened
on the enemy with rifle, auto-rifle
and bomb. Star shells gave them
fleeing glances at their target and
then intense blackness would settle
down again. But these fleeting
glances gave direction and bomb and
bullet denied the Boche his goal. He
departed with his mission unsuccess-
ful. And all through the action the
devil's tune of the war song was played
on its earthen drum and the
screach and crash of shell made con-
nected thought almost impossible.

But the Boche barrage had passed
beyond to the support lines and had
to come back. Lieut. Oscar Vick-
strom, the platoon commander, was
holding the line to the rear. The
barrage fell upon his line and smother-
ed it in its withering fire. He
knew the dire need of his men caught
out front, so he took a few men and
won through the barrage and joined
in the one-sided fight. Before going
forward he sent a runner with a writ-
ten message to Capt. Colladay and
this runner carried the message
through the shrapnel swept zone to
the captain who forwarded it to me
giving us the first real knowledge
where the raid was launched. I took
no chance on its being just a raid but

called on our artillery for counter
preparation on fire and they gave it with
interest. When our batteries respond-
ed and you could hear your own big
fellows going over you may know
things began to look brighter. Mes-
sages began to come through quite
freely and I cannot speak too highly
of Pte. Frederick Belcom who crossed
the barrage three times carrying im-
portant messages, and also of Pte.
Wm. Gabram and Pte. Fred Gave who
were caught out in an unsheltered
watchers' post and remained there
and worked their automatic rifles all
through the barrage in preference to
retiring to their shelter 50 feet away.
Also Pte. Wm. Buger who although
wounded in the back quite severely
by the same shell that wounded Sergt.
Smith, yet stuck to his post and con-
tributed his bit to the defense.

Not yet can I pass by the calm,
sure action of Capt. Colladay—calm,
and sure even though upon his mental
screen was passing the images of his
boys out front and their mothers,
fathers and wives. And finally sil-
ence reigned.

But Fritz got his today. Our
artillery blew his little town, around
which he had built his strong point,
off the map. I consulted with our
artillery and it was arranged to teach
him a lesson. So tonight I am ex-
pecting that Fritz is turning that cal-
abash pipe around in his hand study-
ing what next he can do that will not
bring as sure and complete a punish-
ment. I would like to meet the fool
who said this was a quiet sector.
There is no such thing when the Amer-
icans get on the line.

Thus I have tried to tell you of
the most severe bombardment in this
sector since the "Blue Devils" made
their reputation and I might say our
artillery could reach the particular
mountain upon which it was made. It
stands out scarred and torn, blasted
clean by the terrific bombardment of
that night. On our own sector great
trees were torn, twisted and broken
up. I told the colonel the other day
there was no need about bothering
with wood for us for Fritz felled it
and then spit it up into stove lengths
for us. I have tried to describe what
we have heard and see, but I cannot
help feel how inadequate is our English
language.

In closing I want to say that all
the boys are well and the wounded
are getting along fine and are having
the best of care, but over and above
all our men have justified their train-
ing. We know that we will have to
stand the pounding, the hammering
of the Boche this summer, till our big
man power can be trained and equip-
ped. If Fritz cannot win now he
never can. Our men all realize this
and realize they must be mauled and
clawed about a bit but hold they must
and hold they will, and while holding
look out for a few swift uppercuts
that will set Fritz's head a-jogging
and will hasten the happy day when
I can bring back to Flint the biggest,
best, cleanest body of men and best
fighters that ever trod in shoe leather.

Give all my friends regards and
if you should see any of the fathers
and mothers of my men tell them that
the boys they gave to me are men
now and men that any city or com-
munity could well be proud of; that
they are well; that a couple days' rest
is not in the dictionary, but that we

all are with you at home in heart and
thought many times a day.

Since writing the above it has been
found out that the Boche raiding
troops opposite us were the specially
selected and raiding troops brought
here for this purpose and he tried us
first. He has tried three other bat-
talions since. The others lost some
men as casualties so I consider we
were quite fortunate as the artillery
preparation against us was the most
intense even old-time French officers
ever heard. The wounded are doing
fine.

Guy J. Wilson,
Major 125th Infantry.

The second letter is from Mrs. Wil-
bur Smith, formerly Miss Elta Hall,
and is made up from a number of
letters which she received from her
soldier husband. It is as follows:
Alma, Mich., July 22, 1918.

Dear Editor:
The following are sketches of last
three letters from Wilbur, which I
received recently, and may be of in-
terest to some of his friends.

June 16, '18, Somewhere in France.
The sun came out and bright this
a. m. then began to rain and is still
raining. We packed up and got ready
to move today, as we expected to leave
this evening. Then at 5 o'clock we
received orders to move in the morn-
ing, that of course was good news to
us, as it is so rainy and wet to
march. Now because I say we are
going to move, do not worry and
to the front, on the contrary I am go-
ing away from the front in the oppo-
site direction. I have never been
on the front and will not be for quite
a while yet. I think it is of little
value to the enemy, so I will say as
much as possible.

You have asked many times what
I have to do and what organization I
am in. Well, I am in what is known
as the Pioneer section, and the duty
of this organization is to build dug-
outs, shelters and repair work is our
main duty. We have a bunch of men
of all trades, most of whom are such
as carpenters, mechanics, masons and
several of whom I cannot mention
here. We are going from place to
place doing this kind of work, mostly
construction. So now you can see
that I am in no great danger and any-
way I am always very careful as you
know.

Our section is not a regular fighting
unit, but of course we might have to
fight if Fritz got after us too hard.
Without a doubt the Boches have gone
just about as far as they can go, and
they soon will know that something
is going on when they will be back
trailing for home.

How is everything around home?
I saw a report in Banner to the effect
that there will be a new depot in
Belding. That will be fine. Will it
be at the same location as former
one? How are our dear ones? Tell
them hello for me and I send them
my love and best wishes as usual.

I received three Banners today and
two a few days ago, also the roll of
G. R. papers. You need not worry
about me not receiving all of your
letters because I am getting all of
them now, I can tell by the dates. We
are expecting mail here in a short
now and how well I know there
will be some for me. Yes, I always
receive my share of the mail, when it
arrives, and you know why a-hem.
There is one young fellow in my sec-
tion who cannot believe I am married,
isn't that a joke? He is Polish
and doesn't understand English very
well.

I will join my friends the French
Sergeants in the place where we are
going and I am sure glad to be with
them again. They are both splendid
men and I like them very well. I
have not seen Herman yet, but hope
to very soon. I saw Lee Holcomb
this p. m. and give him two Banners.
The boys from around home are all
well and fine. If you can tell Brin-
ton F. Hall that the article in Banner
by him urging people to buy Liberty
bonds was great and all the boys
from home thank him very much, and
also that I shall bring him a war
souvenir upon my return home.

It has been very rainy here all day.
I am with my friends the F. ser-
geants again and am so glad to be
with them. They were all so pleased
when they learned that the American
Pioneer section was going to be with
them again. They are sure a fine
bunch of soldiers and dear friends of
ours.

We have just finished a fine supper.
I have fresh milk for every meal and
have already let my belt out three
inches. I think I shall need a new
and larger one in a few days, a-hem.

We constructed a roof over our
kitchen and made everything nice and
dry around it this p. m. The boys
are out playing ball with the French
soldiers and they are surely having a
grand time. We are the only Amer-
icans here in this place with the
French, so you see we have no trou-
ble at all in getting around with
them, as there are so few of us. We
have a French cook and the boys think
him o. k. I saw Bob Hicks, a few
days ago, and he still has the same
good times in mind. I have just

Mark Hoppough Present Undersheriff



Candidate for nomination for
sheriff at the primaries, Aug. 27,
1918.

Your deserved support will be ap-
preciated.
(Political Advertisement.)

been out and played a few games with
the fellows, but am now on the job
again. I am very warm and just
about ready to sweat a quart of per-
spiration. Was about to tell you
what I did yesterday. In the morn-
ing I went to the place of our work
with my section. About 10 o'clock
the two F. sergeants, and myself went
to the aviation field. While there
one of the aviators invited me to go
up with him in his machine in the
early evening. So in the evening I
was there, Johnnie on the spot. I
went up for the first time in an aero-
plane and I am telling you the truth
when I say I enjoyed it most of any
machine I ever rode in. It was sim-
ply wonderful, and I have been prom-
ised many more rides with him. We
rode above many villages and over
a lot of country, the scenery was
grand, and so much different from
above. It is just as safe to ride in
an aeroplane as in an automobile.
Now do not worry about me, because
I have entered into a new method
and stage of travel. It is absolutely
safe, but would have been so much
nicer, had my wife been along. I
know you would have enjoyed it im-
mensely.

I have some beautiful souvenirs
over here for you. They were hand-
carved for me by a French soldier.
If I could send them to you, I would
do so at once, but I shall have them
with me when I return to you at home
again. We both hope it will be
very soon.

June 23.—The wind is blowing very
hard, also raining some. We had
rifle and clothing inspection here this
a. m. We also had one-half hour's
drill so the F. soldiers could have a
chance to see Americans drill but I
guess we were out of practice be-
cause only about four or five remained
and watched us, ha. They drilled
for us in the afternoon so we thought
it no more than right to return the
compliment. Well, drill is a thing
of the past with us over here, we
have enough work so we are busy all
the time and drill is unnecessary.

It is very muddy. We had a much
rain. Most of us are equipped with
hip boots. We are all feeling fine.
I do not think of hardly anyone who
is ill, and I am getting so fat that I
cannot button my clothes around me
any more. I am right in luck, the
Supply Co. sent my section all new
clothes, so today I have on a whole
new outfit. We have plenty of clothes
and a plenty to eat, maybe once in
awhile the wagon that brings our ra-
tions is a little delayed, but usually
we are supplied with plenty, so you
see there is no reason to worry of us.
We are well cared for and want for
nothing but a chance to get at the
Huns and end this war then return to
the gold old U. S. A.

My friends, F-sergeants, are leaving
me again this evening and it makes
me feel a little blue because we just
got here with them. Well, that is
the way of the war, we are here and
there all the time on the move and are
liable to move any time. Some day
our job over here will be finished and
then back we will come with bands
playing and flags flying. That is
the glorious old time we are all look-
ing forward to. I think it is not far



Lloyd Burger Candidate For Sheriff

on the Republican Ticket.

Your support will be appreciated
at Primary Election Aug. 27, 1918.

(Political Advertisement)

Real Estate For Sale

8 ROOM HOUSE on May street,
modern, corner lot, shade trees,
garage, large porches, all in
good condition; price \$1,750.

7 ROOM HOUSE, corner James
and Ann streets, lights, gas, tol-
let, city and cistern water, cor-
ner lot, sidewalks in; price \$1,250

8 ROOM HOUSE on East Division
street, toilet, cellar, city and cist-
ern water; to be sold on easy
terms at \$1,100.

5 ROOM HOUSE on Pearl street,
nearly modern, is on a corner lot
and can be bought for \$1,400.

8 ROOM HOUSE, bathroom com-
plete, cellar, electric lights, gas,
cellar, corner of Pleasant and
Isabelle streets; price \$3,300.

SMALL HOUSE on Williams
street, corner lot to be sold at
\$550.00 with a small payment
down. Balance on easy terms.

9 ROOM HOUSE one block from
Min street, on corner lot, all mod-
ern improvements; get our price
on this.

Other places for sale.—Cash or
Terms.

GEO. E. WAGNER
Real Estate and Insurance
Phone 54

off when this terrible thing will cease,
let us hope so any way.

How are all the folks around home?
Tell them all hello for me. Now I
have just been to supper and had
a fine feed; will tell what we had:
Mashed potatoes, brown gravy,
bread, fig sauce, roast beef and co-
ffee. Not so bad, as you can see we
have all we wish for and it is good
and clean.

I suppose our sweater is most fin-
ished; how warm I shall be; it surely
will come in handy this winter when
it is cold and bad weather.

Our boys get along splendid with

the French soldiers and are all fast
and good friends. I must go out
now to see them leave again and bid
them a bonne voyage.

Sergeant Wilbur E. Smith,
Headquarters Co., 126th Inf., A. E.
F., via N. Y.

Roy Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs.
N. C. Douglas of Smyrna, has written
the following very highly interesting
letter to his parents:

Camp Jos. L. Johnston, July 14, 1918.
Dear Mother and All:
Well, once more I have found time
(Continued on Page Five)

NOTICE

Parties holding Liberty Bonds of the first issue,
drawing 3 1-2 per cent interest, and of the Second issue
drawing 4 per cent, can now have them exchanged into
the Third issue of Liberty Bonds drawing 4 1-4 per cent.
If you wish to exchange bring them in this week or next.

BELDING SAVINGS BANK

THE BANK ON THE CORNER

Capital, Surplus & Profits over \$75,000

We Strive to Please

It takes money to build a good concrete walk or
other concrete work and you want the best job your
money will bring. That is the kind you get when we
do your work.

Let us tell you of some of the work that we have
done in this and other cities.

The Two Johns Phone 316

LEON B. McVEIGH

CANDIDATE AT THE REPUB-
LICAN PRIMARIES IN AUGUST
FOR THE NOMINATION FOR

County Clerk

YOUR SUPPORT WILL BE
APPRECIATED.
(Political Advertisement.)

GOVERNMENT RULING

"I do hereby pledge myself not to use, or so far as lies
within my power, permit the use of any stock, now or which
may hereinafter come into my possession or control save,
first, for essential uses, as that term may be defined from
time to time by the priorities division of the Industries Board, or,
second, under permits in writing signed by the Director of
Steel Supply; that I will make no sale or delivery from my
stock to any customer before his filing with me a similar
pledge in writing, and that I will use my utmost endeavor
to prevent the hoarding of stocks and to insure that they be
distributed solely for essential uses."

This pledge must be signed by owner or officer of Com-
pany.

Signed, Belding Hardware Co.

We are trying to serve our country and
our customers. We hope that you will join
with us in this PATRIOTIC duty.

BELDING HDWE. CO.

PHONE 156

BRIDGE ST.

Take Your Vacation at Home

A 100% Program
Sir John Foster Fraser
England's most famous war cor-
respondent. Recently with the
French on the Flanders' front.

Margery Maxwell
Gifted Soprano of the Chicago
Grand Opera Co.

Capt. George Fred'k Campbell
The man who brought down 18
German aeroplanes, and who lost
his entire family in the great war.

The Chocolate Soldier
Greatest of all modern light operas.
30 people in the cast. Beautiful
stage setting and lighting effects.

Dunbar's Revue
Featuring Grand Parade of Allies.

Mrs. Christine Frederick
Nationally known authority on
household war economy.

Alfred Hiles Bergen
and assisting artists.

Oney Fred Sweet
Frank Mulholland
Clarissa Harrold

Lou J. Beauchamp
"The Humorous Philosopher"

Croation Orchestra
100 War Posters
Raemaekers War Cartoons
Chancellor Bradford
Chicago Orchestral Band

No Trunks to Pack
No Baggage to Check
No Hot Rides on Dusty Trains

Get the Most Out of
7 Grand 7
Vacation Days

All the pleasures of a big
week's rest with loads of
Fun, Music, Inspiration,
Education and Relaxation,
to last you for the rest of
the year, at the

**Redpath
Chautauqua**

"Right at Your Door"

All for \$2.50 and
the 10% War Tax

See Detailed Program for Further
Information

Chautauqua Here Aug. 13-20